ÚOCHB AV ČR
IOCB PRAGUE

European eic INNOVATION Council

Horizon Europe
THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVATION
PROGRAMME (2021-2027)

Deadline	**Thur 7 Mar 2024 17:00 Brussels time (IOCB deadline Thur 29 Feb 2024)**
Call name	**EIC Pathfinder Open 2024**
www	https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-funding-opportunities/eic-pathfinder_en Call: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-eic-2024-pathfinderopen-01-01
Focused on	Realising an ambitious vision for radically new technology, with potential to create new markets and/or to address global challenges; early stage development of such future technologies (TRL 1-4); high-risk/high-gain science-towards-technology breakthrough research.
PI	Researchers of any nationality conducting their research in any EU member state or associated country
Eligible organisation	Universities, research organisations, SMEs, start-ups, industrial partners established in an EU member state or an associated country.
Target group	Consortium of researchers that includes at least three independent legal entities, each one established in a different Member State or Associated Country and with at least one of them established in a Member State.
Expected outputs	Open Access (J) reviewed specialist articles; movement of new technology up the TRL scale towards technology development
Call opens	Weds 3 Jan 2024
IOCB deadline	**Thur 29 Feb 2024**
Final deadline	**Thur 7 Mar 2024 17:00 Brussels time**
Evaluation results	Aug 2024
Signature of agreement	Nov 2024 (indicative)
Earliest date of implementation	Nov/Dec 2024
Latest date of implementation	-
Sustainability	None
Reporting	one report every 18 months
Project duration (min-max)	**Up to 48 months (4 years)**
Allocation for the call	136 M EUR (46 projects)
Project budget (min-max)	**Up to 3 M EUR** (0.5 – 3 M EUR) & additional EIC Booster grants of 50 000 EUR to undertake complementary activities to explore potential pathways to commercialisation or for portfolio activities
Success rate	7 % (2023)
Eligible costs	Direct costs: personnel costs, travel expenses, equipment, goods & services, outsourcing (subcontracting); indirect costs: overheads max 25% of the total eligible direct costs
Reimbursement	**100 %**
Mode of funding	Ex-ante
Language of application	English
Provider	European Innovation Council, https://eic.ec.europa.eu/ Frequently asked questions (https://eic.ec.europa.eu/eic-frequently-asked-questions_en#ecl-inpage-321) NCP: Technology Centre CAS, www.tc.cz; Michaela Vlková: vlkovam@tc.cz, tel. 234 006 262
Call identifier	EIC-PathfinderOpen-2024
Call info	EIC Pathfinder Open grants are bottom-up grants designed to support the exploration of bold ideas for radically new technologies. It welcomes the high-risk / high gain and interdisciplinary cutting-edge science collaborations that underpin technological breakthroughs. Pathfinder goes beyond what is already known. Proposals must be submitted by consortia made of at least 3 entities from 3 different member states/associated countries.
Conditions / Restrictions	Proposal must be submitted by the coordinator, on behalf of a consortium that includes at least three independent legal entities, each one established in a different Member State or Associated Country and with at least one of them established in a Member State. The legal entities may for example be universities, research organisations, SMEs, start-ups, industrial partners or natural persons. Sections 1 to 3 of the part B of your proposal, corresponding respectively to the evaluation criteria Excellence, Impact, and Quality and Efficiency of the Implementation, must consist of a maximum of 20 A4 pages. Excess pages will be automatically made invisible, and will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.
Proposal consists of	On-line application on the Funding&Tenders Portal: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/login 1) **Administrative form** (Part A, on-line on the Funding&Tenders Portal): (i) General information: Abstract, Declarations; (ii) Administrative data of participating organisations: Organisation data, Department, Main contact person, Researchers involved in proposal and their career stages, Role of

	participating organisation, up to 5 publications relevant for call content, up to 5 previous projects, significant infrastructure relevant to proposal, GEP yes/no tickbox,; (iii) Budget – budget table; (iv) Ethics and security issues tables; (v) Other questions (applicant & Project Office) 2) **Research proposal** (Part B, use template, max 20 A4 pages): (a) Excellence; (b) Impact; (c) Quality and efficiency of the implementation 3) **Other documentation** (annexes) needed on **ethics** and **security** issues, on **clinical trials** or **financial support to third parties**, if relevant (Project Office & applicant)
Evaluation criteria	**Remote scoring by EIC expert evaluators according to the criteria below.** A rebuttal procedure after the remote phase with opportunity to reply with a strict page limit (maximum two A4 pages) to the evaluators' comments, about 1.5-2.5 months after the call deadline. Not to alter or add to the content of the proposals, must strictly focus on responding to potential misunderstandings or errors by the evaluators. Evaluation committee will make a final decision based on the remote evaluators' reports. **Excellence (Threshold: 4/5, weight 60%)** Long-term vision: How convincing is the vision of a radically new technology towards which the project would contribute in the long term? Science-towards-technology breakthrough: How concrete, novel and ambitious is the proposed science-towards-technology breakthrough with respect to the state-of-the-art? What advancement does it provide towards realising the envisioned technology? Objectives: How concrete and plausible are the proposed objectives to reach the envisaged proof of principle? To what extent is the high-risk/high-gain research approach appropriate for achieving them? How sound is the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, alternative directions and options, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research content, and the quality of open science practices? Interdisciplinarity: How relevant is the interdisciplinary approach from traditionally distant disciplines for achieving the proposed breakthrough? **Impact (Threshold: 3.5/5, weight 20%)** Long-term impact: How significant are the potential transformative positive effects that the envisioned new technology would have to our economy, environment and society? Innovation potential: To what extent does the envisioned new technology have potential for generating disruptive innovations in the future and for creating new markets? How adequate are the proposed measures for protection of results and any other exploitation measures to facilitate future translation of research results into innovations? How suitable are the proposed measures for involving and empowering key actors that have the potential to take the lead in translating research into innovations in the future? Communication and Dissemination: How suitable are the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, including communication activities, for raising awareness about the project results' potential to establish new markets and/or address global challenges? **Quality and efficiency of the implementation (Threshold 3/5, weight 20%)** Quality of the consortium: To what extent do all the consortium members have the necessary high quality expertise for performing the project tasks? Work plan: How coherent and effective are the work plan (work packages, tasks, deliverables, milestones, timeline, etc.) and risk mitigation measures in order to achieve the project objectives? Allocation of resources: How appropriate and effective is the allocation of resources (person-months and equipment) to tasks and consortium members?
Research areas	Any
Call workshop	Webinar EIC 2024 calls Technology Centre Prague – slides https://www.horizontevropa.cz/cs/kalendar/yiifcalendarevent/835/webinar-vyzvy-eic-2024 European Innovation Council online info day 15 Jan 2024 https://eic.ec.europa.eu/events/save-date-european-innovation-council-online-info-day-work-programme-2024-15-january-2024-2024-01-15_en
IOCB contact	Please inform the IOCB Project Office about your intention to apply. Do not hesitate to contact us anytime for consulting, discussion or help. Jitka Šilerová, jitka.silerova@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 229 Veronika Palečková, veronika.paleckova@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 266 Blanka Collis, blanka.collis@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 527 Lenka Štěrbová, lenka.sterbova@uochb.cas.cz, +420 220 183 179
Download documents	EIC-PathfinderOpen-2024 summary EIC 2024 Work programme (pages 22-27) EIC-PathfinderOpen-2024 application form template (to follow) EIC-PathfinderOpen-2024 part B template (to follow) EIC-PathfinderOpen-2024 topic descriptors